

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed September 12, 2007. Reconsideration of this application in view of the below remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1–10, 20–22 and 24–32 have been previously elected for further consideration, with Claims 1, 20 and 24 being in independent form. By the present amendment, Claims 1, 20 and 24 are amended. No new subject matter is introduced into the disclosure by way of the present amendment.

I. Rejection of Claims 1 – 23 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1–23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. However, since Claims 11–15, 18, 19 and 23 were previously withdrawn from consideration, therefore, the present rejection is assumed to be directed to Claims 1–10, 16, 17 and 20–22.

Regarding Claim 1, the Examiner asserts that insufficient antecedent basis is provided for “an operation-limited area” recited on lines 7 and also on lines 14–15 and “each of the at least one operation-limited area” recited in line 9. Similar issues appear in Claim 20.

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to replace “an operation-limited area” with “the at least one operation-limited area”, which is believed to obviate the present rejection. Accordingly Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection with respect to Claims 1–10, 16, 17 and 20–22.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 – 3, 20 – 22 and 24 – 25 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1–3, 20–22 and 24–25 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,738,572 issued to Hunter.

Hunter fails to teach a mobile communications terminal equipped with a camera. Rather, Hunter only discloses a camera. It should be noted that the mobile communication terminal determines whether the mobile communication terminal is within an operation-limited area.

Additionally, Hunter fails to disclose or suggest a camera function controller for selectively inhibiting one or more of the plurality of camera functions depending on camera-function limitation data corresponding to the at least one operation-limited area (or camera-function limitation data, as recited in Claim 24) in which the mobile communication terminal is located. Rather, Hunter discloses disabling the camera operation entirely rather than a selective disabling of one or more of the plurality of camera functions.

It is well-settled by the Courts that “[A]nticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim.” Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GMBH v. American Hoist and Derrick Company, et al., 730 F.2d 1452, 221 USPQ 481 (Fed. Cir., 1984).

Therefore, as demonstrated above, because Hunter does not disclose each and every element recited in the present claims, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection has been obviated. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection with respect to Claims 1–3, 20–22 and 24–25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

III. Rejection of Claims 4 – 10 and 26 – 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 4–10 and 26–32 are under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over combinations of Hunter, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0118797 (hereinafter, “Masuda”), U.S. Patent No. 6, 433, 818 issued to Steinberg et al.

However, the cited prior art references fail to disclose or suggest a camera function controller for selectively inhibiting a number of the plurality of camera functions. Rather, Hunter

and Steinberg et al. disclose disabling the camera operation entirely rather than a selective disabling of one or more of the plurality of camera functions. Masuda fails to disclose or suggest limiting camera functions at all.

Moreover, Steinberg et al. discloses a camera that requires a password to be entered at predefined intervals (of time or number of images captured) otherwise the camera ceases to function. Alternatively, the Steinberg et al. camera is only capable of functioning within an area that is covered by a transmitted signal containing an operational code. In addition, the Steinberg et al. camera uses either a scan of an authorized user's iris or scan of an authorized user's fingerprint. (See: FIG. 9; and col. 6, lines 16–35). There is no reference or suggestion made in Steinberg et al. for providing a face image memory for previously registering a face image of each authorized user, as recited in Claims 2 and 28.

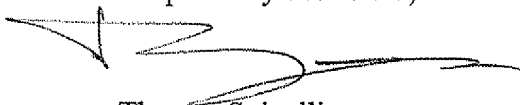
Therefore, for at least the reasons provided above, Claims 4–10 and 26–32 are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art references, taken alone or in any proper combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection with respect to Claims 4–10 and 26–32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hunter, Masuda and Steinberg et al.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 1-10, 20-22 and 24-32 are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Spinelli', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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